

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Status of Claims

Claims 8-12, 15, 16, 21 and 22 are pending in this application.

Claims 8, 15 and 16 are amended. Claim 8 has been amended to more clearly specify a data communication apparatus further comprising “a generating step of generating a markup language file including an object for causing the transmission destination to instruct to print an image corresponding to the additional information; a first reception step of receiving a first reply from the transmission destination to the URL transmitted in said first transmission step; a second transmission step of transmitting the markup language file including the object generated in said generation step based on the first reply received in said first reception step; a second reception step of receiving a second reply from the transmission destination to the markup language file including the object transmitted in said second transmission step; and a printing step of printing the image corresponding the additional information based on the second reply received in said reception step to the markup language file including the object transmitted in said second transmission step.” Support for this amendment may be found throughout the application as originally filed including, for example, p.8, ln.19 – p.9, ln.27 and p.14, ln.25. – p.15, ln.10.

Claim 15 is a method claim for the apparatus of claim 8 and has been amended to more clearly specify “[a] data communication method comprising: a first transmission step of transmitting a URL for specifying additional information to a transmission destination; a generating step of generating a markup language file including an object for causing the transmission destination to instruct to print an image corresponding to the additional information; a first reception step of receiving a first reply from the transmission destination to the URL transmitted in said first transmission step; a second transmission step of transmitting the markup language file including the object generated in said generation step based on the first reply received in said first reception step; a second reception step of receiving a second reply from the transmission destination to the markup language file including the object transmitted in said

second transmission step; and a printing step of printing the image corresponding the additional information based on the second reply received in said reception step to the markup language file including the object transmitted in said second transmission step.” Support for this amendment may be found throughout the application as originally filed including, for example, p.8, ln.19 – p.9, ln.27 and p.14, ln.25. – p.15, ln.10.

Claim 16 is directed to a computer readable medium for the apparatus according to claim 8 and has been amended similar to claim 15.

These amendments are not made for any substantial reason related to patentability (§§102, 103). No new matter is introduced by these amendments. Entry is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 8-12, 15, 16, 21 and 22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,790,793 to Higley (“Higley”).

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the characterization of the pending claims and of the prior art in the stated rejections, and traverses these rejections. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as properly understood by those skilled in the art are patentably distinct from the cited references.

Applicants has herein amended independent claim 8, 15 and 16 to clarify a feature of the present invention that the object for causing the transmission destination to instruct to print the image corresponding to the additional information is included in the markup language generated by the generating unit (step) and in the printing unit (step), and that the image corresponding the additional information is printed based on the second reply received to the markup language file including the object.

Thus, according to the present invention, it is possible to notify the transmission destination of existence of the additional information, and it is also possible to print the image corresponding to the additional information according to the will or intention of the transmission destination.

In addition, according to the present invention, the additional information is printed on the basis of the second reply which was issued after the transmission of the markup language file including the object for causing the transmission destination to instruct to print the

image corresponding to the additional information. Thus, at the transmission destination, it is possible to instruct to print according to the object displayed on a general-purpose browser, wherein the image printing can be achieved through a simple operation.

Applicant believes, and respectfully submits that the procedure for printing the image corresponding to the additional information is clarified by the above-indicated claim amendments and supporting remarks.

On the other hand, Higley discloses a plurality of kinds of HTML information data, but unlike the present invention, none of the data in Higley is relative to “the object for causing the transmission destination to instruct to print the image corresponding to the additional information” (See Amended Claims 8, 15, and 16). Moreover, Higley does not disclose that the image corresponding to the additional information is printed by receiving a reply to the markup language file which includes the relevant object. In other words, Higley does not disclose or suggest the above-explained constitution of the present invention for printing the image corresponding to the additional information.

Applicant therefore believes that the present invention is not disclosed, taught and suggested by Higley alone or in combination with other references of record.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 8, 15 and 16 and claims depending therefrom, are believed allowable.

Dependent Claims

Applicant has not specifically addressed the rejections of the dependent claims. Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims, from which they depend, are in condition for allowance as set forth above. Accordingly, the dependent claims also are in condition for allowance. Applicant, however, reserves the right to address such rejections of the dependent claims in the future as appropriate.

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing objections be withdrawn as being overcome or otherwise rendered moot.

Application No. 09/588,495
Paper dated September 1, 2006
Reply to Office Action of June 1, 2006

CONCLUSION

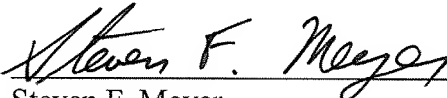
For at least the above-stated reasons, this application is respectfully asserted to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable examination on the merits is requested. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF THIS AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 AND 1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-4500, ORDER NO., 1232-4423US1.

An early and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: September 1, 2006

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